

HARVEST PROSPECTS.

Field Exceeding 30 Million Bushels.

Conditions a month or so ago led the Government Statist to forecast a crop of about 28½ million bushels. Favourable weather since then has caused him to increase the estimate to about 30½ million bushels.

The Government Statist (Mr. W. L. Johnston) on Tuesday advised that he had compiled his analysis of the September reports furnished by the police upon the prospects of the wheat areas of the State. On September 3 it was intimated that the average under crop appeared to be approximately the same as the previous season. This has now been confirmed by an analysis of returns from farmers recently collected. The increase, if any, will be very small. In the report issued after the recent rains it was stated that, owing to a set-back in the western and upper north divisions, a high average could not be anticipated even with a continuance of the most favourable weather conditions. The September reports just received speak more favourably of the conditions in the western areas and in Dalhousie and Frémont than in the upper north division, and are quite satisfactory as to the prospects in the wheat division of the State. The recent September rains having followed the August rains. With the best prospects in the western division, it is now estimated that an average of 12.3 bushels may be expected; yielding an aggregate of approximately 30,411,000 bushels. This may be increased or decreased should the improvement in the western division be greater or less than is now estimated. The wheaten hay crop will be short. The estimated areas under wheat and yield in the divisions of the State is shown below:—

	Total area acres.	For grain acres.	Average per acre bushel.	Total yield bushels
Central	625,150	482,000	14½	6,989,000
Lower North	843,000	753,000	17½	12,989,000
Upper North	238,400	200,000	11	2,200,000
South Eastern	29,400	28,000	14½	413,000
Western	542,900	510,000	7	3,570,000
Murray Mallee	550,650	500,000	8½	4,250,000
State	2,829,500	2,473,000	12.30	30,411,000

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